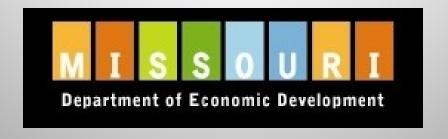


Start Smart Initiative Application Process Round 2

Division of Business and Community Services Sallie Hemenway - Brenda Horstman - Andy Papen







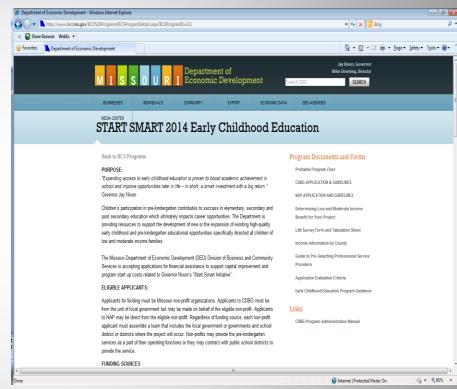
Webinar Agenda

- Start Smart Initiative
 - Purpose
 - Funding Opportunities
- Review of the Programs
 - Application Process
 - Application Requirements
 - Attachments
- Deadline



Initiative Information

- Website –
 www.ded.mo.gov
- Click on Program Incentives
- Click on Start Smart Initiative
 - Summary Description of the Program
 - Program Documents and Forms
 - Related Links





Initiative Purpose

"Expanding access to early childhood education is proven to boost academic achievement in school and improve opportunities later in life – in short, a smart investment with a big return." Governor Jay Nixon

- Education and Economic Development
 - Relationship between early childhood education and success in school
 - Relationship between success in school and success in career
 - Relationship between skilled workforce and business development (attraction and expansion)



Initiative Funding Opportunities

- \$10 million dollars in a combination of grants and contribution tax credits
 - State Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and
 - Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP)
- Capital Improvements
- Start up Costs





Application Process

- Determine which program is appropriate.
- Complete and Submit the appropriate application.
- Due in offices of DED no later than 5:00 p.m. August 1, 2014.





Determining Appropriate Program

CDBG

- Capital improvements only
- Non-entitlement areas only
- Local Government must be applicant (on behalf of non-profit)
- Low to Moderate Income Requirement

NAP

- Capital improvements and one-time start up costs.
- Statewide
- Nonprofit must be applicant
- Low to Moderate Income Requirement



Community Development Block Grant

- Maximum grant limit \$1 million
- Unit of local government must apply on behalf of eligible non-profit
- Requires contractual relationship between unit of local government and non-profit
- May be used for capital costs only (no start up)
- Limited to "non-entitlement" areas of the state only
- Requires environmental review (ER) no acquisition or construction prior to ER completion



Neighborhood Assistance Program



- 50% contribution state tax credit (donor provides \$1.00 and receives a tax credit equal to .50 cents)
- \$250,000 maximum per project award (\$500,000 in donations)
- Non-profit is direct applicant
- May be used for either capital costs or one time start-up costs, or both
- No location restrictions (available anywhere in state)



Eligible Applicants

Required Team:

- Each applicant must assemble a team that includes the non-profit, the local government or governments and the school district or districts where the project will occur.
- Depending on the program, either the non-profit will be the applicant, or the local government will be the applicant on behalf of the non-profit.
- The non-profit may be a local organization providing the direct early childhood education or may contract with another service provider to carry out the early childhood education.



Eligible Activities



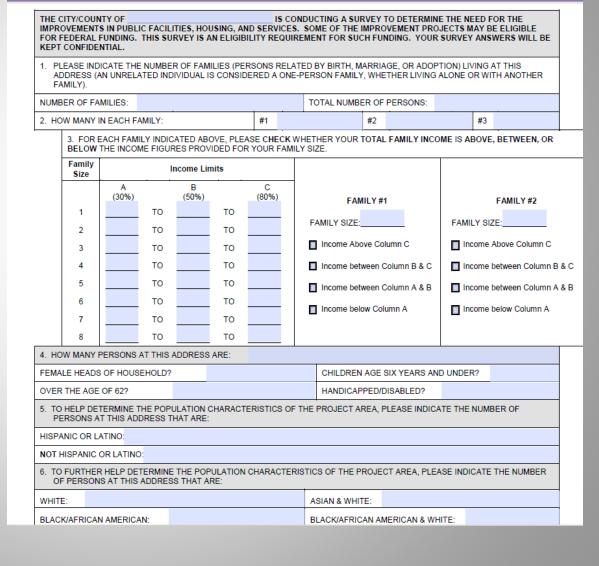
- Capital Improvement costs:
 - may include acquisition, new building construction, rehabilitation of existing properties, and related soft costs associated: appraisal; closing costs; engineering and architectural costs; inspections; and permitting. The applicant may own or hold a long term lease.
- Program start-up costs:
 - costs such as equipment related directly to curriculum delivery.
- Both:
 - Applicants may seek either capital improvement funds or programming funds, or both.

Special Program Requirements Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Benefit

- LMI defined as 80% of county median household income
- All projects must either:
 - Benefit 100% LMI actual participants
 - Benefit a service area that is at least 51% LMI
- Both funding programs carry LMI requirement
- See "Determining Low and Moderate Income Benefit for Your Project" found on webpage under Program Documents and Forms
- Applicants desiring not to benefit LMI may apply for NAP under regular competitive rounds (May/October)

Low and Moderate Income Option

- Benefit 100% LMI
 - All children
 attending must
 come from families
 of LMI income
 - Measured by income survey
 - Survey forms
 found on webpage
 under Program
 Documents and
 Forms





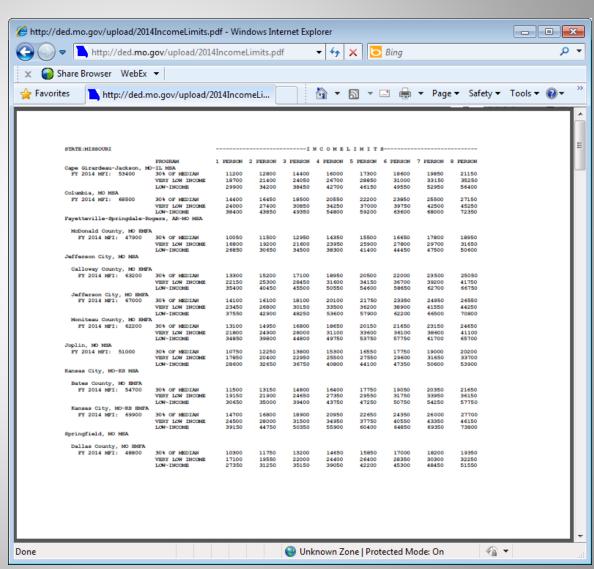
Low and Moderate Income Option

- Benefit a service area that is at least 51% LMI
 - Facility is located inside defined service area
 - Service area may match a defined jurisdiction or census tract or block group(s)
 - LMI measured by HUD census information (contact Andy Papen for this information)
 - Service area may match specific street or neighborhood boundaries
 - LMI measured by survey

Census Information by County

- Found on webpage under Program Documents and Forms
- LMI is "Low Income"
- For other census data contact Andy Papen

andy.papen@ded.mo.gov



Special Program Requirements Early Learning Program Guidance

- See Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) website for full details on the Missouri Pre-School Project: http://dese.mo.gov/eel/el/MPP/index.htm
- See Department of Health and Senior Services website for licensing requirements: http://health.mo.gov/safety/childcare/
- See DESE website for Early Learning Program Guidance:
 - http://dese.mo.gov/eel/el/documents/eel-el-2014-EarlyLearningProgramGuidance.pdf
- DED staff is not the expert on early learning, DESE Program, or DHSS licensing requirements.
- The goal for DED is to help create facilities that would otherwise be eligible for DESE funding.

Special Program Requirements Early Learning Program Guidance

- The Standards include:
 - 3-year community needs assessments performed and reviewed annually
 - Specific education qualifications for Staff and Teachers and Teacher Assistants
 - Participation in professional development
 - Annual staff evaluations
 - Research based curriculum approved by DESE.

Special Program Requirements Early Learning Program Standards

- Developmentally appropriate program experiences which are individualized based on the child's needs in a responsive, safe, enriching environment with continuity of care and learning interactions
- Up-to-date health policies, promotion of health, and prevention from harm:
 - Indoor space of 50 sq ft of usable floor space per child and outdoor space of 100 sq ft of usable space per child
 - Current fire and sanitation inspections

Special Program Requirements Early Learning Program Standards

- Child/Adult Ratios:

Infants to 24 months:

- 3/1; with no more than six children in one room (preferred)
- 4/1; with no more than eight children in one room (acceptable)

24 months to 36 months:

- 4/1; with no more than eight children in one room (preferred)
- 6/1; with no more than 12 children in one room (acceptable)

Age 3 to kindergarten entry:

- 7/1; with no more than 21 children in one room (preferred)
- 10/1; with no more than 20 children in one room (acceptable) Mixed age group (birth - kindergarten entry)
- 6/1; with no more than two under age two (preferred)
- 8/1; with no more than two under age two (acceptable)



Special Program Requirements Early Learning Program Standards

- Annual program evaluations
- Partnerships and collaborations with stakeholders from the community to provide the work force and development of programs and services.



DED as an Investor

- How do we measure our Return on Investment?
 - Sustainability
 - Plans for long term, high quality operation of the facility is key to prove to the "investor" (DED)
 - Demonstrate how use of one-time capital funds and one-time start up funds will be turned into a successful operation
 - Business plan
 - Budget
 - Revenue sources
 - Annual overhead and cost of operation



Application Format

- Provide two hard copies, one with original signatures, and one electronic copy (email or CD) of the complete Application;
- Presented in 12-point font, single spaced, with attachments;
- Due in the offices of DED no later than 5:00 p.m. April 28, 2014; NO POSTMARKS!
- Missouri Department of Economic Development

"Start Smart Initiative"
301 West High Street, Suite 770
P.O. Box 118
Jefferson City, MO 65102
keisha.gray@ded.mo.gov





Application Content

- General Applicant Information
- Organizational Capacity of Non-Profit applicant
- Description of Need
- Low to Moderate Income Compliance
- Standards of Early Childhood Facility
- Facility Project Information
- Facility Cost Information
- One Time/Start-Up Cost Information (NAP)
- Annual Operating Budget
- Outcomes
- Fund Raising Plan (NAP)





General Applicant Information

- Name, address, and phone number of the assembled team:
 - Local Government
 - Non-Profit
 - School District(s)
- Name, phone number and email address of the application preparer/contact;

Organizational Capacity of Non-Profit Applicant

- A description of the non-profit organization, including its mission and history;
- A description of the non-profit's experience with early childhood education:
 - Does the non-profit currently operate a facility?
 - If so, include size, location, etc.
- An organizational chart depicting the nonprofit organization's current staff and duties;



Description of Need

- Number of children to be served;
- Number of children currently serving, if applicable;
- Age groups proposed to serve;
- Proposed service area;
- Census data providing number of early childhood age children in service area;



Description of Need

- Currently existing early childhood facilities in the service area and number of children served;
- What is market demand for your services?
- Waiting list at other facilities?
- How are your services different from other existing facilities?

LMI Income Compliance

- A statement regarding which means of meeting the low and moderate income benefit is used:
 - 100% participants
 - -51% area benefit



Standards of the Early Childhood Facility

- Will the minimum educational and experience requirements for proposed staffing meet or exceed standards:
 - Supervisor/Administrator: Baccalaureate degree
 - Teacher: Baccalaureate degree with certification in early learning
 - Paraprofessional/Teaching Assistant: Child development associate credentials or associate of arts degree in early learning

Standards of the Early Childhood Facility

- Will staffing be provided by the non-profit or the school?
 - If school: Provide information about the school's experience in providing early learning, organizational chart of the school's staff and duties, description of curriculum, and how facility meets the minimum space standards.
 - If non-profit: Provide description of curriculum, and how facility meets the minimum space standards.

Facility Project Information

- A description of any planned construction activities, and whether such activities are for construction of new facility or an expansion or rehabilitation of an existing facility;
- Copies of preliminary architectural drawings or a description of the facility and cost estimates for construction/rehabilitation;
- A statement describing site control (ownership, option, lease);
- The amount of funding requested for capital improvements;
- A statement identifying the specific use of state funds related to capital improvements;
- Provide a project timeline.

Facility Cost Information

- A detailed sources and uses document identifying other funds committed or proposed to be obtained.
 - A/E Costs
 - Hard costs
 - Soft costs (i.e. professional fees, financing costs, project administration fees)
 - Funding requested from Start Smart for each of the categories
 - Other funds for the project (source and amount)
 - Are the other funds committed?

One Time/Start-up Information

- NAP applicants only
- Description and amount of funding requested for one-time start-up costs, if applicable;
- A statement identifying the specific use of requested Start Smart funds related to start-up costs;
- A detailed sources and uses document identifying other funds committed or proposed to be obtained.

Annual Operating Budget

- Provide total annual operating budget;
- Annual revenue projected in first 5 years;
- Annual expenditures projected in first 5 years (including all operating costs)
- Will there be any debt as result of project? If so, include that in the operating budget.





Outcomes

- A statement describing the measurable outcomes for participants in terms of school readiness or other measure of educational attainment;
- A statement describing how participant outcomes will be measured, including the length of time participants will be tracked.



- NAP only
- Provide fundraising plan, including activities, events, and marketing.
- Identify the individual(s) that will oversee fundraising.
- Identify to whom the agency will market the credits.
- Timeline for activities, events and major fundraising milestones.



Attachments

- Attachments are required for several of the questions.
- Checklist is provided for convenience.
- Letters of Support
 - One from your State Representative and one from your State Senator.
- Local Government Certification (NAP)
- Site Control
 - NAP requires proof that the non-profit owns (or has a long-term lease) or has a contingency contract to purchase property.
 - CDBG requires that no acquisition occurs until ER is completed, if acquisition is part of the project.

Evaluation Criteria

- Team Review (DED and DESE)
 - Need defined as the availability and capacity of early childhood educational opportunities in the proposed service area;
 - Impact defined as the extent to which the proposal will address the documented population of children in the proposed service area without access to quality early childhood education opportunities;
 - Efficiency of Plan
 – defined as the cost per square foot and the cost per beneficiary;

Evaluation Criteria

- Capacity
 — defined as the non-profit applicant's history and experience in early childhood education and its relationship with the local school district;
- Sustainability defined as the strength of the plan for ongoing operation beyond the term of the funding requested;
- Quality defined as a subjective analysis of the curriculum and educational instruction proposed, as evaluated by professionals with expertise in early childhood education;
- Outcomes defined as the degree of which measures are proposed to effectively and objectively measure project outcomes;
- Beneficiaries defined as the cost per beneficiary.





Timeline

• Applications due in the offices of DED no later than 5:00 p.m. August 1, 2014

Missouri Department of Economic Development "Early Childhood Education Initiative" 301 West High Street, Suite 770 P.O. Box 118 Jefferson City, MO 65102 keisha.gray@ded.mo.gov





Questions?

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